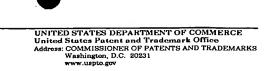


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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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STICE ET AL.
PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW, NINTH FLOOR
WASHINGTON DC 20005-3918

You are hereby notified under 37 CFR 1.607(d) that an applicant is seeking to provoke an interference with your U.S. Patent No. 6,215,041.

The identity of the applicant will not be disclosed unless an interference is declared.

If a final decision is made not to declare an interference, a notice to that effect will be placed in the patent file and will be sent to the patentee.

If an interference is declared, notice thereof will be made under 37 CFR 1.611.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Michael P. Woodward Interference Specialist Technology Center 1600 Art Unit 1631